

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 323

By Raper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Rhyne Howard of
Bradley County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in recognizing a dynamic athlete and native Tennessean who serves as an outstanding ambassador of this State; and

WHEREAS, one such exceptional athlete is Rhyne Howard, formerly of Bradley Central High School and the University of Kentucky, who now plays professional basketball in the WNBA for the Atlanta Dream; and

WHEREAS, a 2018 graduate of Bradley Central High School, Rhyne Howard was honored as Tennessee Gatorade Player of the Year and Tennessee Miss Basketball during her senior season; and

WHEREAS, she played for the U.S. women's basketball national team in both 2018 and 2019 and helped her team win a gold medal in the 2018 World Cup; and

WHEREAS, Rhyne Howard then matriculated at the University of Kentucky, where her prodigious talents earned her USBWA National Freshman of the Year honors; and

WHEREAS, a veritable superstar at Kentucky, she was named SEC Player of the Year in 2020 and 2021 and was also honored as a unanimous first team All-American in 2021; and

WHEREAS, she led Kentucky to its first SEC tournament title since 1982, as the Wildcats handed South Carolina, the eventual 2022 national champion, its second and final loss of the season in the championship game; and

WHEREAS, overall a two-time first team All-American and three-time All-SEC selection, Rhyne Howard finished her career at Kentucky averaging 20.5 points and 7.4 rebounds per game; and

WHEREAS, Rhyne Howard has demonstrated exceptional leadership, sportsmanship, and a commitment to community service, and has served as a positive role model for young people in her community; and

WHEREAS, in a most appropriate tribute, the Bradley County Commission has requested that the General Assembly rename that portion of South Lee Highway in front of Bradley Central High School between Grove Avenue SW and Fairway Drive SW in honor of Rhyne Howard; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Rhyne Howard on her exemplary service to her community on this special occasion, applaud her outstanding basketball career, and wish her much continued success in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.